

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07

DRC-01 /079 W

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P 212110Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6586

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, AR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR BILATERAL RELATIONS

REFS: A. STATE 105764, B. COBB/ELSBERND TELCON MAY 21

1. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR SPOKE WITH AMBASSADOR PEREZ VILLAMIL OF FOREIGN OFFICE BEFORE NOON, MAY 21 TO INFORM HIM: A) THAT BECAUSE GOA HAS NOT FOUND IT FEASIBLE ACCEPT US PROPOSAL MADE MAY 9, USG HAS MADE DECISION CAB ORDER SHOULD BE NOTIFIED TO AEROLINEAS; AND B) USG EXPECTS, WITHIN REASONABLE PERIOD, TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS WHICH, HOPEFULLY, WOULD MAKE IT FEASIBLE FOR AEROLINEAS TO REFILE WITH CAB. AMB PEREZ VILLAMIL'S RESPONSE INDICATED NO SURPRISE AT USG DECISION BUT HE SEIZED UPON POINT B AND EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT DOOR STILL OPEN FOR DIALOGUE.

2. THERE HAS BEEN TOO LITTLE TIME FOR EMBASSY TO PICK UP INDICATIONS OF REACTION FROM AEROLINEAS OR DNTAC. IN THIS CONNECTION, HOWEVER, IT HAS BEEN REPORTED TO US THAT AEROLINEAS REPS IN EXTENDED SESSION OF MAY 17 PUSHED FOR MORE FORTHCOMING RESPONSE BY GOA TO US PROPOSAL OF MAY 9. ALLEGEDLY, AEROLINEAS REPS INDICATED A COUNTER PROPOSAL SUCH AS MADE BY GOA ON MAY 20 WAS UNLIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED WITHIN USG AND THUS WOULD ACT TO FRUSTRATE OR AT LEAST DELAY AEROLINEAS' FURTHER PLANS. UNFORTUNATELY, AEROLINEAS REPS WERE OVERRULED BY DNTAC.

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FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS INVOLVED APPEAR TO EMBASSY AS

ATTEMPTING PLAY MODERATING ROLE BUT THEY ARE NEITHER STRONG PERSONALITIES NOR DO THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIAL BUREAUCRATIC/ POLITICAL CLOUT. NEITHER OF THESE GROUPS WAS, THEREFORE, SURPRISED BY US RESPONSE AND IN OUR JUDGMENT ARE UNLIKELY TO INITIATE ANY STRONG ADVERSE REACTION. DNTAC, LIKEWISE, WAS PROBABLY NOT SURPRISED BY USG RESPONSE. WE TEND TO BELIEVE COMMODORE WITTE, THOUGH INTEMPERATE AND HOT-HEADED, WILL NOW FIND HIMSELF IN RELATIVELY ISOLATED POSITION AND ANY REACTION HE MAY HAVE SHOULD BE TEMPERED BY DESIRE OF AEROLINEAS AND FOREIGN MINISTRY TO FIND A WORKABLE SOLUTION.
HILL

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Message Attributes

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